

April 14, 2022

Congressman David Rouzer 2333 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rouzer:

Please accept this letter of support for Sampson County's application for a direct appropriation grant of \$1.0 million. If awarded, these funds will be used for a drinking water treatment facility upgrade for Sampson County's water system. Our Board of Commissioners understands that access to potable water is essential, not only to ensure the quality of life we are dedicated to providing to our citizens, but also to secure the economic vitality of our communities. The County has endeavored since the early 1990's to develop our water system, despite early engineering advice that it could not be accomplished in our rural, geographically large, but often sparsely populated, county. We have been successful only with grant dollars such as the ones we are now pursuing.

The project we propose with this funding will add a third manganese treatment vessel to the two existing water treatment facilities owned and operated by Sampson County. This is an important project for several reasons. The treatment facility will ensure the quality of our groundwater resource (which often has high iron and manganese content) and allow us to maintain compliance with federal drinking water standards and reduce customer concerns. The treatment vessel will also allow the County to increase their water treatment and production capacity. This is particularly important as it will foster economic growth, which in turn allows us to afford the programs and services our citizens need, particularly in these challenging times.

We appreciate the opportunity to be considered for these critical funds and your efforts to see our county and its communities thrive.

Sincerely

Sue L. Lee, Chairman

Sampson County Board of Commissioners